

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING and  
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT NEGATIVE DECLARATION**  
concerning

NPDES Permit  
for

TSAR NICOULAI CAVIAR, LLC AND RALPH F. NIX 1995 REVOCABLE TRUST

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, LLC is the operator of the Tsar Nicoulai Sturgeon Farm, a fish farm. The Facility is located on land owned by Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, LLC, and the Ralph Nix 1995 Revocable Trust. The Facility discharges wastewater to a Sacramento County storm drain, which discharges to an unnamed tributary of the Cosumnes River, a water of the United States. The Tsar Nicoulai Facility is a new facility that is not currently regulated by a Regional Board Order. Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, LLC applied for a NPDES permit to discharge an average flow of 1.2 mgd of treated wastewater from the sturgeon raising operation. The wastewater discharge from the Facility contains pollutants including suspended and settleable solids, ammonia, nitrate, iron, manganese, and salt. Effluent limitations and/or best management practice requirements are included for these constituents.

A **formal** public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Regional Board meeting which is scheduled for:

DATE: 23/24 June 2005

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board,  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200  
Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Staff of Central Valley Regional Board
- Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, LLC
- Persons directly affected by the discharge

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Board no later than **6 June 2005**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and a proposed Negative Declaration were issued on **6 May 2005**. The public review period to receive comments on the proposed Negative Declaration began on **6 May 2005** and ends on **6 June 2005**. Persons wishing to comment on the proposed Negative Declaration or Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements must submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Regional Board so that they are received no later than 5:00 p.m. on **6 June 2005**. Written evidence or comments received after that date/time will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Regional Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

Anyone having questions on the proposed Negative Declaration or NPDES permit should contact Ms. Patricia Leary at [pleary@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:pleary@waterboards.ca.gov) or (916) 464-4623. Interested parties may download the proposed Negative Declaration, Order, and related documents from the Regional Board's Internet website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/tentative/>. If you do not have Internet access, these documents may be inspected and copied at the Regional Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by appointment.

The procedures governing Regional Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and is available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_laws/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_laws/). Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Board's website at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board\\_meetings/mtgprocd.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_meetings/mtgprocd.html) or by contacting any one of the Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

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KENNETH D. LANDAU, Assistant Executive Officer

6 May 2005